



STATE OF WASHINGTON - Department of Ecology - Lacey, Washington
REQUEST FOR QUOTE - RFQ No. ECY SPPR C0704

PROPOSAL TITLE: STANDBY EMERGENCY VESSEL TOWING SERVICES

In accordance with Section 6. REVISIONS TO THE SOLICITATION (see below) the AGENCY hereby is cancelling the solicitation in its entirety.

Thank you for your interest and time.

6. REVISIONS TO THE SOLICITATION

In the event it becomes necessary to revise any part of this solicitation, addenda will be published on the AGENCY web site, as follows: www.ecy.wa.gov select "Contracting" and appropriate solicitation.

The AGENCY also reserves the right to cancel or to reissue the solicitation in whole or in part, prior to execution of a contract.

The reason for this cancellation is outlined below in an e-mail from Cheryl Cervantes:

Community Members Interested in the Neah Bay Rescue Tug -

I want to report the progress we have made to ensure our coast is protected by a state funded rescue tug pre-positioned at Neah Bay. The current commercial market for highly capable tugs that could serve as a rescue tug is tight due to demand in the Gulf Coast for post-Katrina hurricane repairs and other work. As a result of these market conditions, Foss Maritime exercised its option last month to not fully renew its contract with the state of Washington to provide a rescue tug in October. The company will provide a tug at Neah Bay starting November 1.

As a result of Foss's business decision, Ecology ran an expedited contracting process to solicit bids from companies that operate American flagged tug boats in Washington and Oregon to provide rescue tug coverage next month. Ecology received one bid for \$22,500 a day plus fuel. While we will continue to make every effort to maintain rescue tug coverage, we have decided not to award the contract at this relatively high price. If the contract were awarded, we would be spending nearly all of the money earmarked by the Legislature at the end of December – with the worst part of the 2006-07 winter season still to come.

During October: We will watch coastal weather forecasts and work with the Coast Guard to identify any potential vessels that need assistance. If a major storm is forecast to hit the coast or some other need arises, we will be ready to immediately spot charter a tug and preposition it at the best possible location – probably Neah Bay. We will also be working with our federal partners to identify other safety options during this interim period.

Coverage for November and December, and Beyond: Under our existing contract, Foss Maritime has agreed to provide rescue tug services in November and December. The two months coverage affords us the opportunity to go out to bid again in the near future. We will work with the Department of General Administration to accept new bids for and consider re-submitted requests for proposals to provide tug coverage for January 2007 through June 2008. Funding for the rescue tug runs out in June 2008. We feel this year's contract issue highlights the need to find a stable, long-term funding source to secure rescue tug at the best possible price.

Please contact me if you have any questions at 360/407-7450.

This is being sent on behalf of Dale Jensen, Program Manager
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